

WCIAL Quarterly #3

In This Issue: Paradise Lost and the world's first movie cinema!



Above: Depiction of Philippe Jacques de Loutherbourg's cinema

"Give me the liberty to know, to utter, and to argue freely according to conscience, above all liberties." - John Milton, America's Poet

That Standard Bearer of our Liberty, John Milton

Milton is the philosopher poet of Truth and Freedom. We know that both issues are highly relevant today as opposing sides in the world claim that they alone are right and the opposing side wrong. Both extremes seem to want to suppress the thoughts and expression of those with whom they disagree. Righteousness on both sides is rampant. But as Milton said:

"Let her [Truth] and Falsehood grapple; who ever knew Truth put to the worse in a free and open encounter? Her confuting is the best and surest suppressing."

- John Milton, Areopagitica

"They are the troublers, they are the dividers of unity, who neglect and don't permit others to unite those dissevered pieces which are yet wanting to the body of Truth."

- John Milton, Areopagitica



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PARADISE LOST AND THE FIRST MOVIE CINEMA

THE ROMANTICS

Romanticism was characterized by its emphasis on emotion and individualism as well as glorification of all the past, nature and especially the exotic, as seen in *Kubla Khan*, the poem by Samuel Taylor Coleridge.

The movement emphasized intense emotion for aesthetic experience, emphasizing emotions such as apprehension, horror and terror, and awe—especially that experienced in confronting the new aesthetic categories of the sublimity and beauty of nature. It also valued spontaneity, and sensual experiences of the flesh.

For the Romantics, the Devil held no more terror. Thus the Romantics could play with ideas associated with him and delight in excesses of sex, alcohol and, even in Thomas de Quincey's case, drugs such as opium were seen as conducive to artistic and literary imagination.

According to Coleridge's Preface to "Kubla Khan", the poem was composed one night after he experienced an opium-influenced dream after reading a work describing Xanadu, the summer palace of the Mongol ruler and Emperor of China Kublai Khan.

In Xanadu did Kubla Khan
A stately pleasure-dome decree:
Where Alph, the sacred river, ran
Through caverns measureless to man
Down to a sunless sea. (lines 1–5)

Thus characterized the 18th century rife with high imagination, sensuality and no fear of the devil!

FROM Jrank:

Hedonism is a modern word derived from the Greek *hedone*, or "pleasure." As a philosophical position, moral hedonism justifies pleasure as a good, or even the good. Its history can be traced back to Hellenistic philosophy.

Ancient ethics can be defined as a response to the question: "What is a good life?" The first reply to such a question is "happiness" (eudaimonia). This starting point is common to Plato (c. 428–348 or 347 B.C.E.) and Aristotle (384–322 B.C.E.), to Epicureanism and Stoicism, but then the competition about the proper definition of "happiness" begins. What is happiness? And here, with the variety of meanings of eudaimonia, the discrepancy among philosophical traditions unfolds. Yet, at the point where the disagreement begins, we find a remarkable consensus about what usually comes to mind as the most obvious candidate. It is pleasure.

Generally hedonism is rejected by Christian doctrine. And fear of Satan's influence in using the attractiveness of pleasure to achieve sin and corruption was a grave concern for theologians through the early $18^{\rm th}$ century and continues even to this day in most Christian communities. However, the enlightenment changed all of this in philosophical circles with the thinking of John Locke, Descarte and others.

Talk of the Devil: Crime and Satanic Inspiration in Eighteenth-Century England by Owen Davies on Academia:

The late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries are usually seen as a defining era in Western Christianity, a period when Satan was largely stripped of his power. The omnipotent Devil, central to the millenarian preoccupations of the early modern period, recruiter of a legion of witches to overthrow Christianity, was disenchanted.

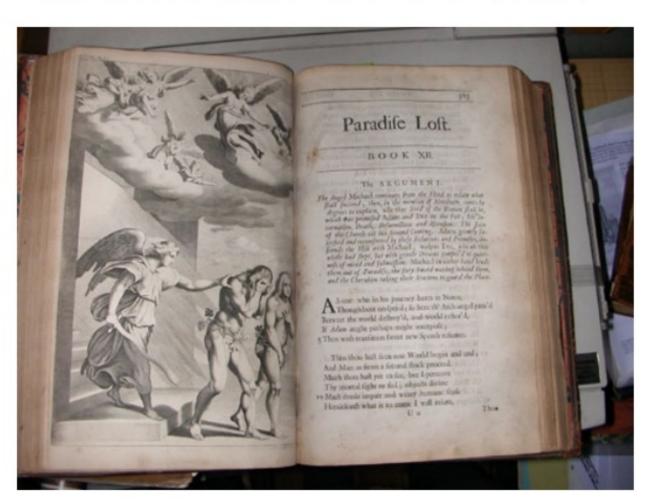
His enfeeblement and relegation to Hell was bound up with the wider debate about divine intercession. The decline of Satan's earthly influence was just one symptom of God's partial withdrawal from human affairs, along with the end of the age of miracles, and a reduction in providential occurrences and angelic appearances.

It was also still a lively matter of public debate in urban artisan and middling society at the end of the century, as is evident from several public debates on the question: 'Is there any real foundation for a belief in the Devil?'

Yet, apart from the continued historiographical interest in some Nonconformists' adherence to diabolic intervention, the history of the Devil after the early eighteenth century shifts decidedly from the social to the literary context, from the study of the Devil as fearful reality to his symbolic artistic representation.

According to Dr. Robert J. Wickenheiser, one of the greatest scholars and collectors of John Milton, "...poets who aspire to lofty goals lend themselves most readily to being illustrated, providing us with the opportunity of looking at how a poem or group of poems is seen in the eye of an artist. Instead of learning about the themes and poetry of a given age or period as seen only through the eyes of writers and critics, we are privileged to have the views of the artist to help us see and appreciate the poetic vision of the poet, sometimes in great variation from one period to the next or as viewed by one generation to the next."

In the case of John Milton he has been inspirational to artists beyond all others and is one of the most illustrated authors of all time. The 1688 edition of his Paradise Lost was, according to Edward Hodnett, "the first serious effort to illustrate an important work of English poetry."



Recently many efforts are made to digitalize Milton and bring his work and his illustrators to the general online community. Professor Hugh Macrae Richmond of Berkley University has especially been active on his Website 'Milton Revealed," and The Mellon Foundation gave his program a 2 million dollar grant.



Recently a digital online interactive virtual reality board game was created by Terrance Lindall. Thus Milton has expanded as far as technology can take it...thus far.

You can play it here: https://tabletopia.com/games/paradiselost

Most amazingly is that the VERY FIRST movie cinema in the world was of Milton's PARADISE LOST in an enlightened atmosphere of hedonism and no fear of the devil. The year was 1782.

The Romantic Revolution: John Milton's Paradise Lost And The First Movie Cinema

In 1781, artist Philippe Jacques de Loutherbourg was hired by a wealthy young aesthete, William Beckford, to prepare a private birthday spectacle at his mansion. De Loutherbourg, was inventor of a "moving picture" entertainment, the Eidophusikon, "a mysterious something that the eye has not seen nor the heart conceived." Beckford wanted an Oriental spectacle to seduce a thirteen year old boy, William Courtenay, and Louisa Beckford, his own cousin's wife.

Philippe de Loutherbourg's movie was a miniature mechanical theatre measuring six by eight feet, and described as displaying "Various Imitations of Natural Phenomena, represented by Moving Pictures". He used <u>Argand lamps</u> to light the stage and stained glass to change colours.



Above: William Courtney age 13, "the prettiest boy of his time"

THE ORGY AT CHRISTMAS

The three day party and spectacle staged over Christmas became one of the scandals of the day with accusations of sodomy. However, this Oriental spectacle was the predecessor to modern-day cinema. Thus proceeded "... their three nights of delirium, dwelling steamily on orgiastic 'iniquities' and 'sacrifices,' on 'young victims panting on the altar,' and on spectre raisings and demonic rituals."



Loutherbourg anticipated the famous nineteenth-century "Phantasmagoria" of French showman, Gaspard Robertson, by producing in 1782 a miniature Gothic movie scene based on the Pandemonium episode in **Milton's Paradise Lost**.

W.H. Pyne described the scene:

"Here, in the foreground of a vista, stretching an immeasurable length between mountains, ignited from their bases to their lofty summits, with many coloured flame a chaotic mass rose in dark majesty, which gradually assumed form until it stood, the interior of a vast temple, bright as molten brass, seemingly composed of unconsuming and unquenchable fire."

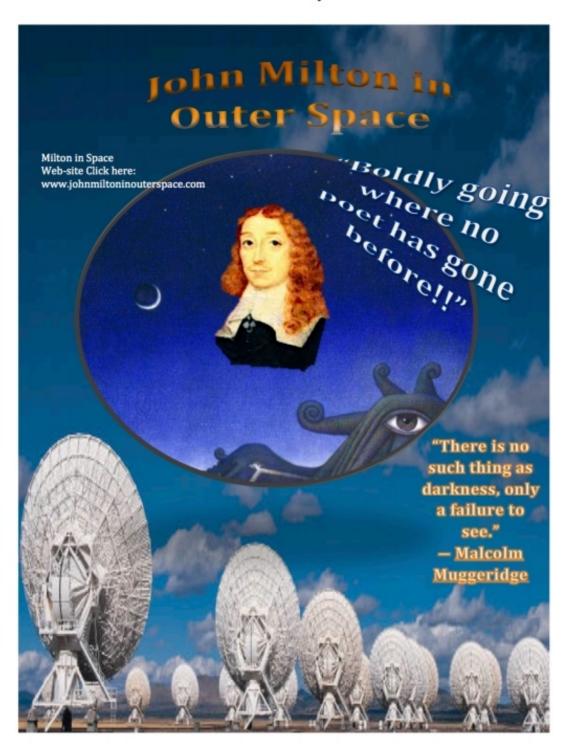
Hardcastle 302-3

"As a swarm of intricately-built mechanical demons clambered out of the asphaltic lake, concealed lights gradually transformed its waters from "sulphurous blue," to "lurid" red and then again to a "pale vivid light," an echo perhaps of the colour stages of an alchemical transmutation. For this new show Loutherbourg had also developed what Pyne called a "picturesque of sound." Intricate machinery produced "peals of thunder," the crackle of lightning and "groans, that struck

the imagination as issuing from infernal spirits" (Hardcastle 302-03).

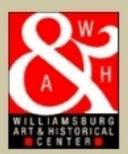


AN ALLEGORY ON THE 21 Century HUMAN CONDITION

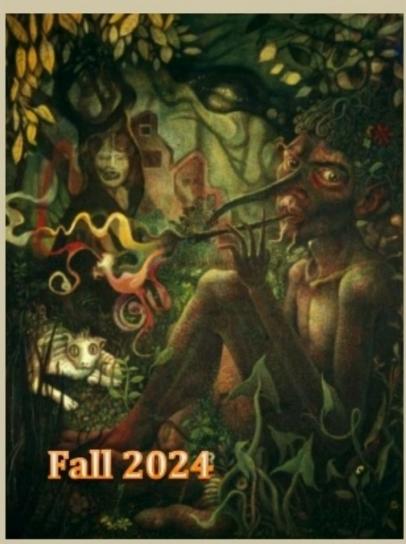


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Milton's COMUS! Hedonism, Seduction, A Grand Spectacle of Art, Music and Performance! 2024 Info: tlindall@gmail.com



THE WALL CENTER PRESENTS

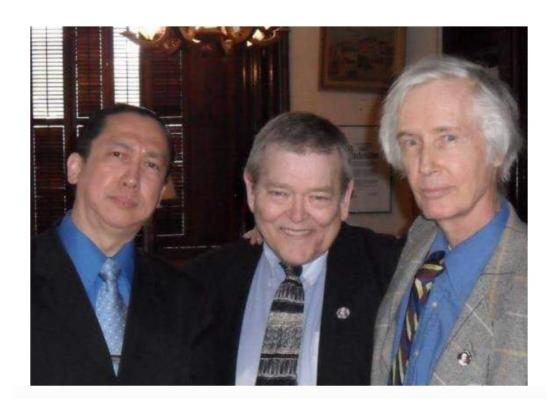


masquerade ball!

"The Universal Library, Dr.Robert...



B. Bones Banez, Ma'am Yuko Nii, & Terrance Lindall at Williamsburg Art & Historical Center, Brooklyn, New York, USA



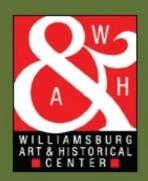
his way to New Paradise. http://wahcenter.wixsite.com/

grand-paradise-lost- & Emanation: Third Eye-https://www.amazon.com/Emanations -Third-Eye-Carter-Kaplan/dp/1491257083



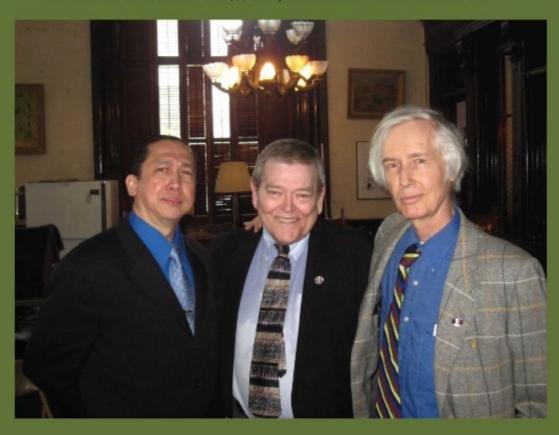
Benedictine Monk and former president of St. Bonaventure University Dr. Robert J. Wickenheiser

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_J.
_Wickenheiser with Publisher Dr. Carter
Kaplan and Surrealmageddon Philosopher
and artist Bienvenido Bones Banez in THE
UNIVERSAL LIBRARY. Bob Wickenheiser
was put in charge of the library by St. Peter



Robert J. Wickenheiser & Terrance Lindall The John Milton Projects 2009-2015

Below: Bienvenido Bones Banez, Robert J. Wickenheiser and Terrance Lindall



Selected emails with Terrance Lindall on collecting, art and other topics



John Milton Paradise Lost Gold Scroll by Terrance...

Visit



THE GOLD ILLUMINATED PARADISE LOST SCROLL OF TERRANCE LINDALL

Introduction

by Yuko Nii of the Yuko Nii Foundation "The written word skins in through the eye and by nearns of the utherly delicate retina hurls shadows like insect legs inward for transle ther. An immense space opens up in silence and privacy, a space when literally, anything is possible." John Updake

Updite's is a wonderful description of why the written word cambo be superseded and why the written word will endere. Written words in a master's hand can corripae landscapes, colors, sensations, music, philosophy and artistic visions without confining them. And as the words are scanned, the receptive and imaginative reader, a size gue and imaginative reader, a size gue non part of this formula or process, brings them to life. As John Milton said "Books are not absolutely dead things!"

With Paradise List, the written word in its greatest form, Milton was able to evoke Updilae's "immense space" and project spectacular land-scapes of both heaven and hell, and create also the monumentally tragic character of Satan, courageous yet debased, blinded by jealousy and ambition, beselc nonetheless. The blind poet brings powerful visionary lide to one of the world's greatest stories, id est, the Western legend of man's creation and fall, a story encourasesing ribiliosochical concests.

of free will, good and evil, justice and mercy, all presented with the greatest artistry to which the written word can aspire.

The artist Terrance Liesdall came to Million while pursuing a double major in Weistern Philosophy and linglish Literature, graduating Magno Cum Loade from Hunter College New York City. Paradise Lest, this "greatest work in the English language," emaptured Liesdall because it encapstilates his metaphysical, epistemological and axiological philosophies. Today Terrance Lindall's pointings for John Million's Paradise Lest are perhaps the best-known illustrations for this spic cutistic of

those by William Blake and Gustav Doré. Thus the power of Milton to day is reflected in how it continue to inspire artists, writers and intel ligent persons at all levels, creatin a ripple effect into society.

Lindail believes that insight in Milton and the aesthetic and intel lectual pleasures of Paradise Liscan elevate every individuals experience in education, though the human endeavor...through the inspiration of the "written word. Lindail's Gdd Illuminated Paradis Last Servil is a final and complettribute to his love and sincere gratitude for Milton's great contribution to humanity.



Masterpiece by Terrance Lindall



One of Bienvenido Bones Banez's Great Works

Terrance Lindall's PARADISE LOST

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THE NEW INTERNATIONAL SURREALIS...

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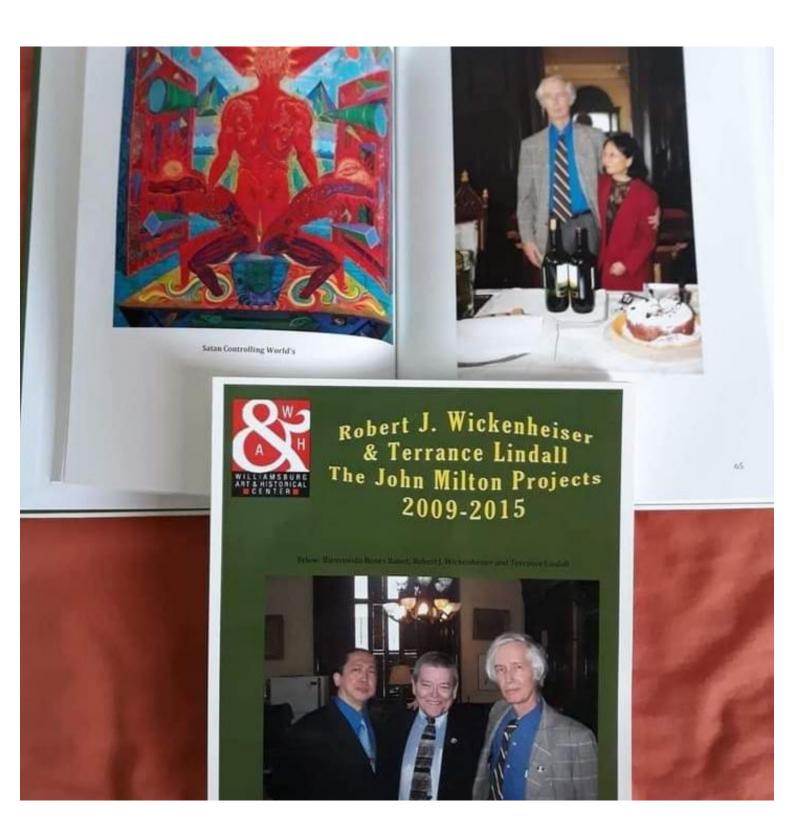




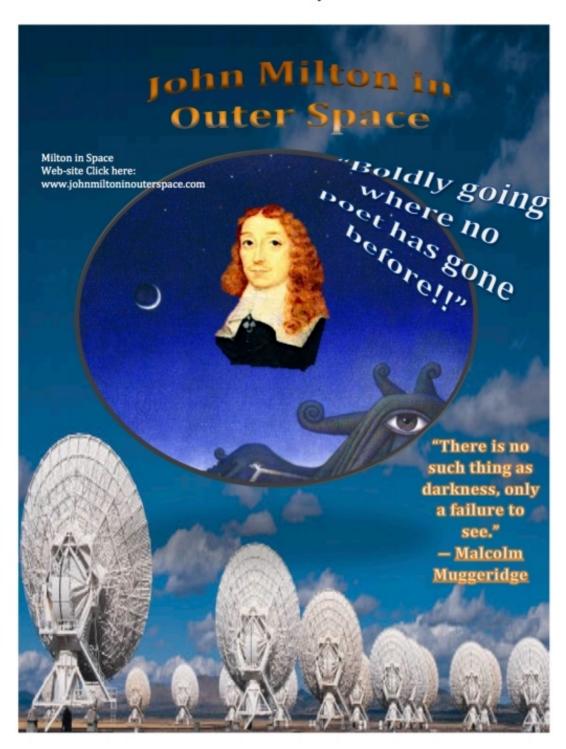
Satan Inspiring the World By Master Surrealist Bienvenido Bones Banez

Author: terrance-li...

Category: Documents

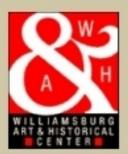


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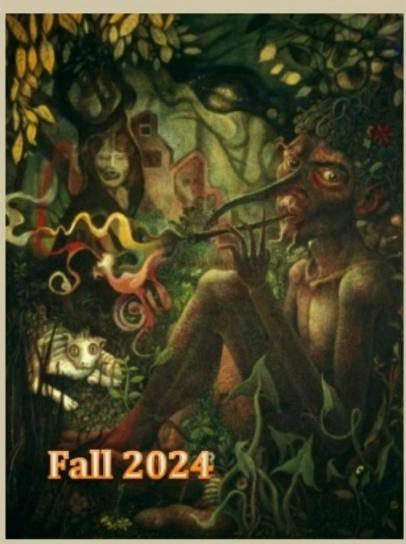


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masquerade ball!

The Satanic Verses Gold Folio



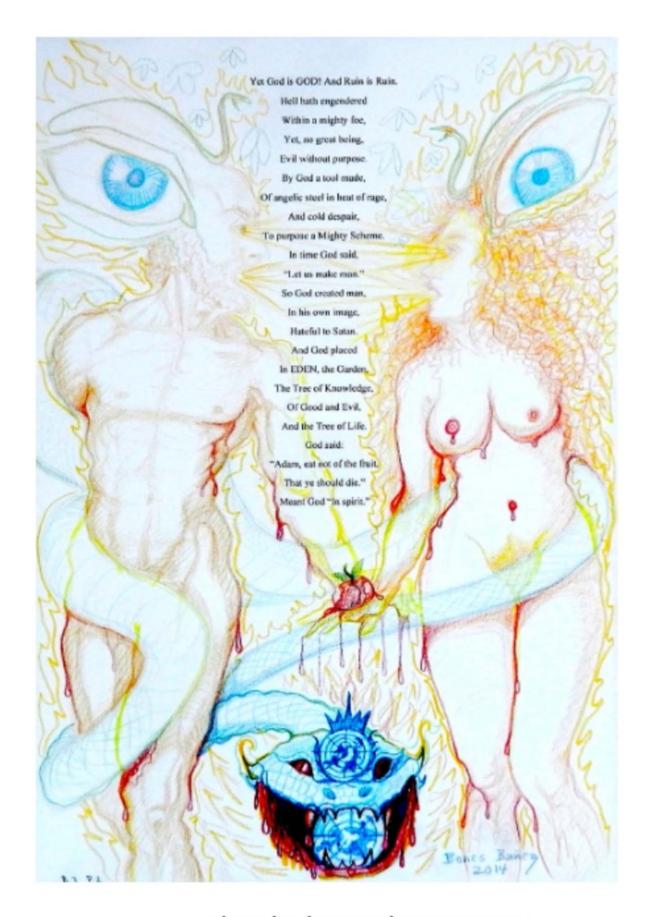
ed and numbered Gold Folio softcover of nce Lindall's Paradise Lost available, plus postcards, prints and more...





Terrance Lindall & Box Will be there to sign pro THE SATANIC VEI

The first finished page
On view Sat April 12, 2014 1-5 PM

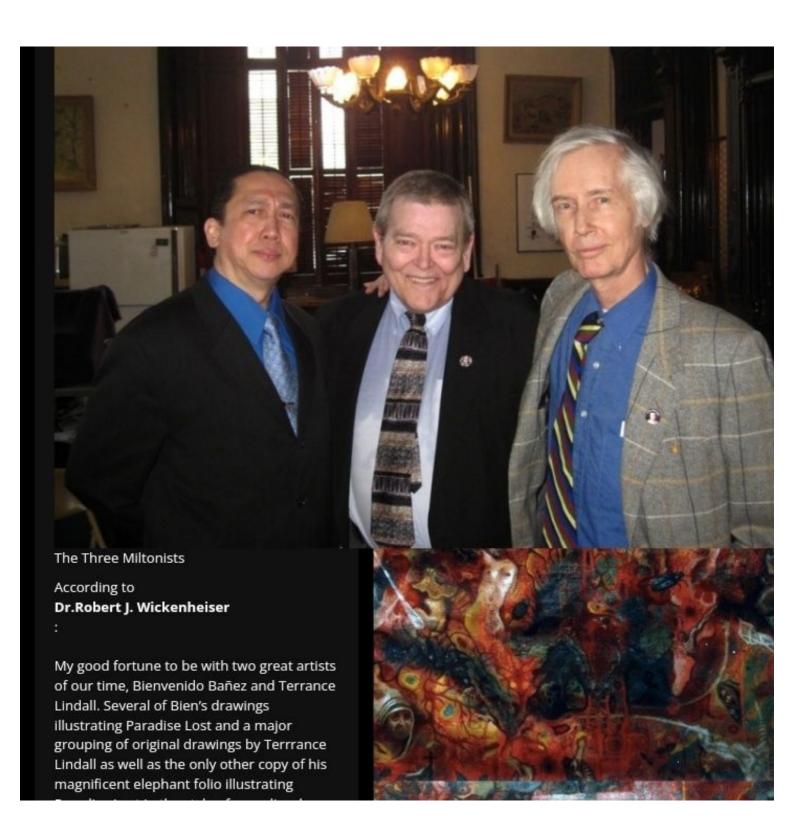


Adam and Eve by Banez in his SATANIC VERSES



On April 14 & 15, 2012, Dr. Robert J. Wickenheiser will talk about his collecting experiences at the Williamsburg Art & Historical Center in Williamsburg Brooklyn. He will also display some of his collection. The 928 page sumptuously illustrated catalog will be available for purchase...and maybe he will sign it. The Wicknenheiser Milton collection, now at the University of South Carolina, has been called by Professor John Shawcross, the "hands down" greatest Milton collection ever assemble.

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/ Category:Terrance_Lindall





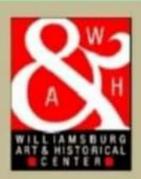




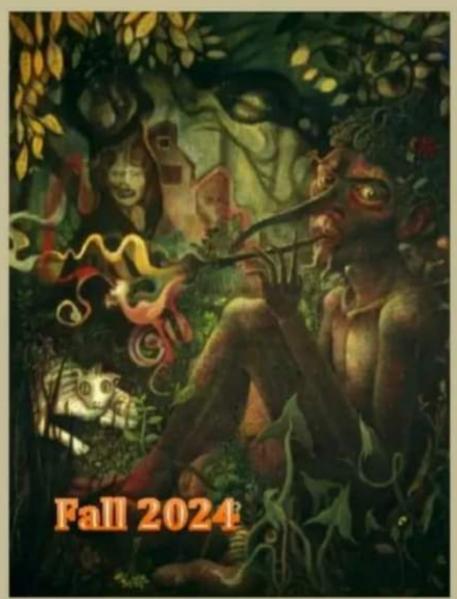
The world's greatest printed and embelli...

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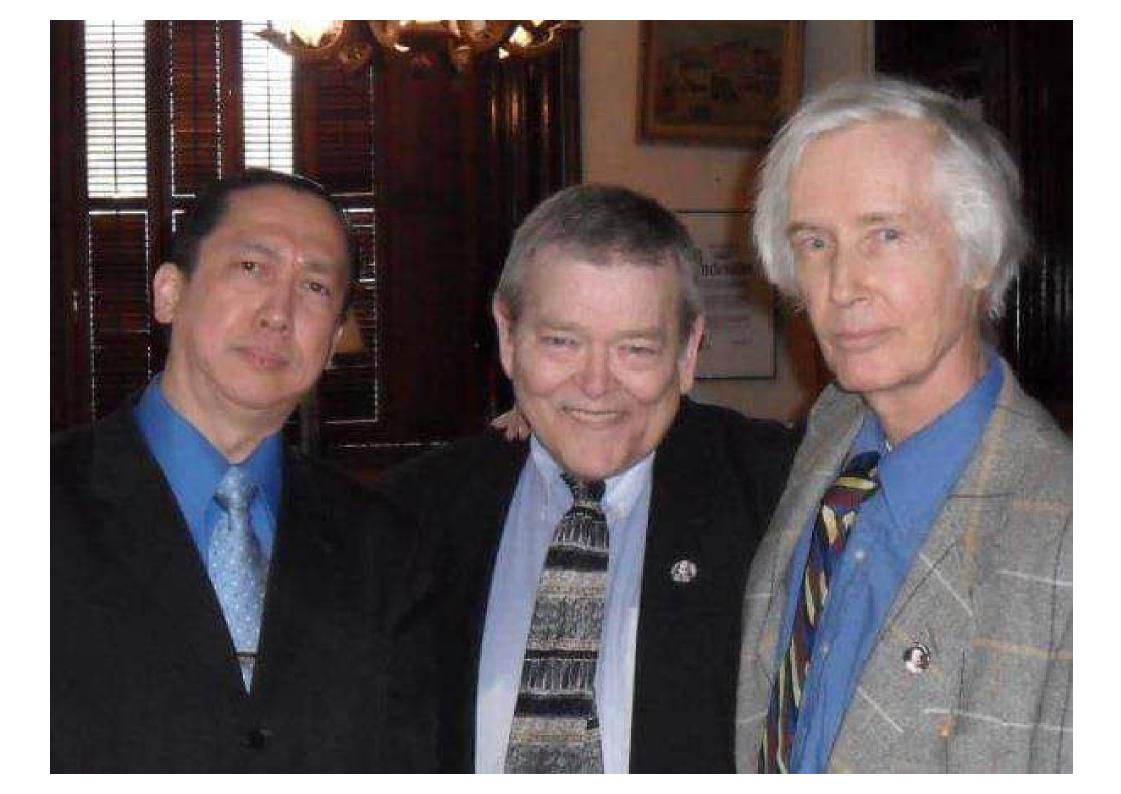




THE WAH CENTER PRESENTS



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The John Milton Projects 2009-2015

Below: Bienvenido Bones Banez, Robert J. Wickenheiser and Terrance Lindall

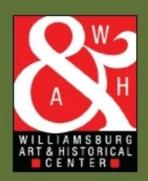


Selected emails with Terrance Lindall on collecting, art and other topics





Dr. Robert J. Wickenheiser



Robert J. Wickenheiser & Terrance Lindall The John Milton Projects 2009-2015

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John Milton Paradise Lost Gold Scroll by Terrance...

Visit



"Bienvenido Bones Banez, Jr." is a Filipino surrealist painter born in Davao City in the southern island of Mindanao, the Philippines, on June 7, 1962. Having suffered from mild childhood autism and attention deficiency disorder, he became a fine example for parents with special children as he rose to comparative international prominence when he was counted in as one of early 21st century's greatest living surrealists by Terrance Lindall, president and executive director of the Williamsburg Art and Historical Center in New York.

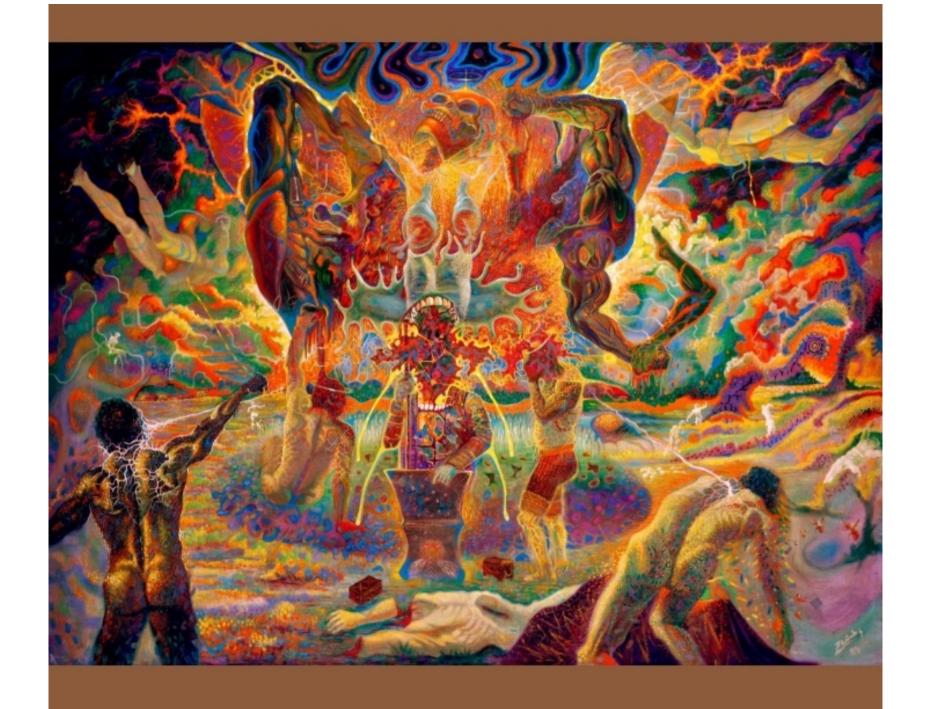
His Milton work is now in the U. of South Carolina Milton Collection and the Milton Cottage Collection.

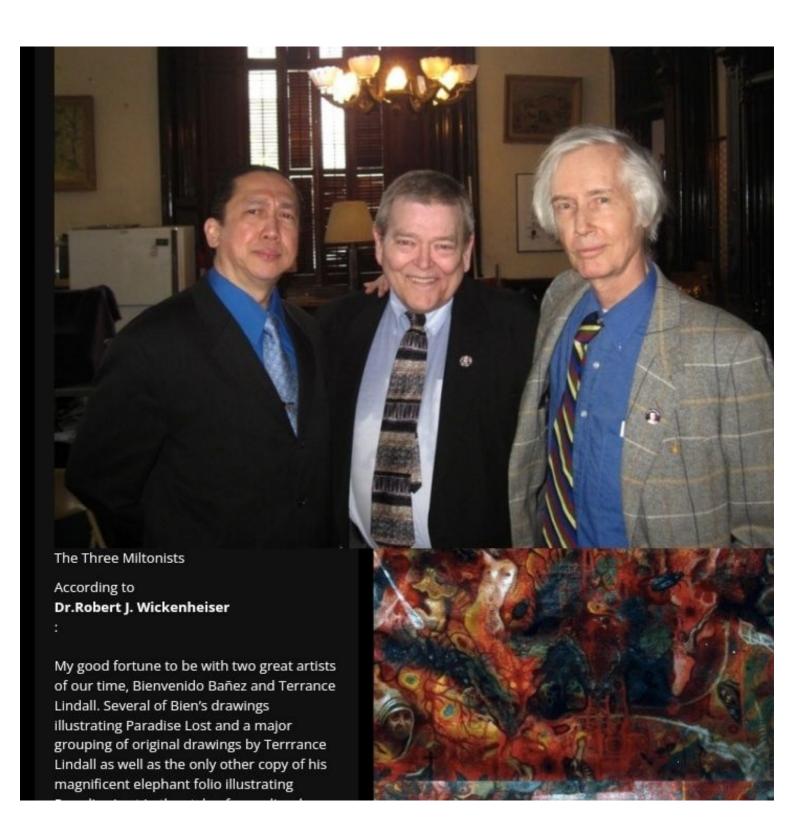




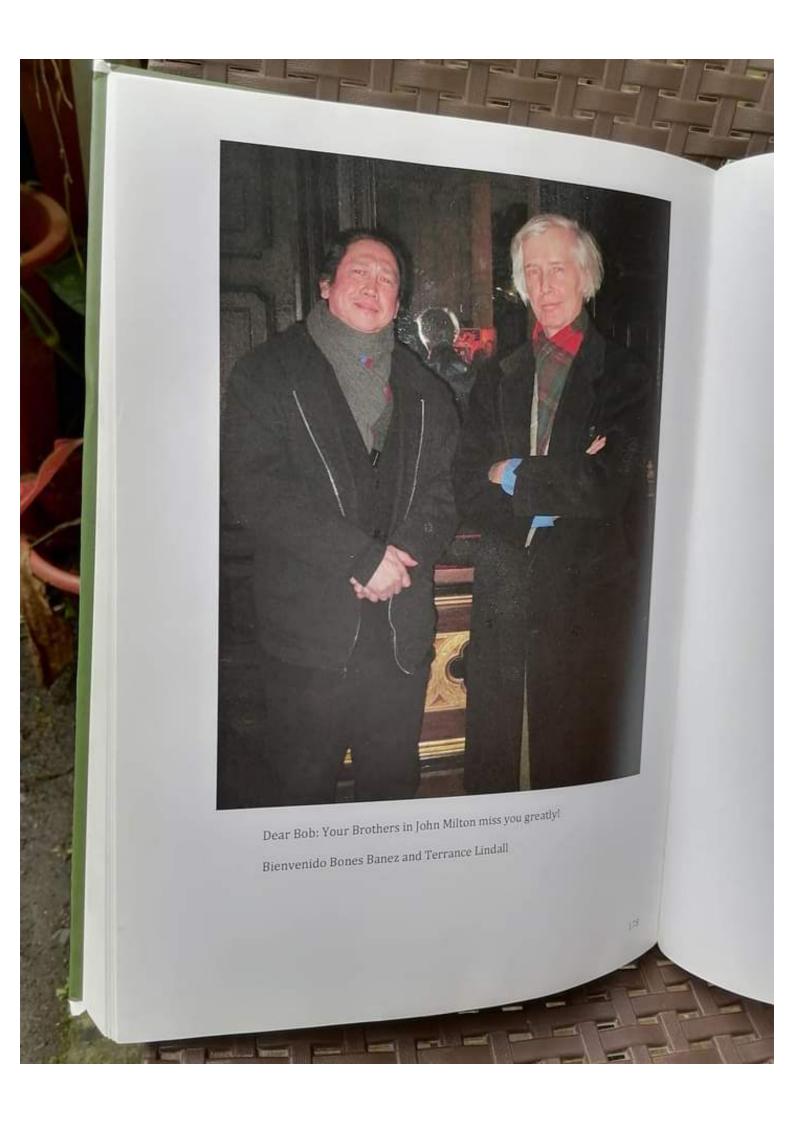
Also! First viewing of Bienvenido Bone Banez's great mural just received from the Philippines!







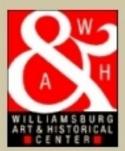




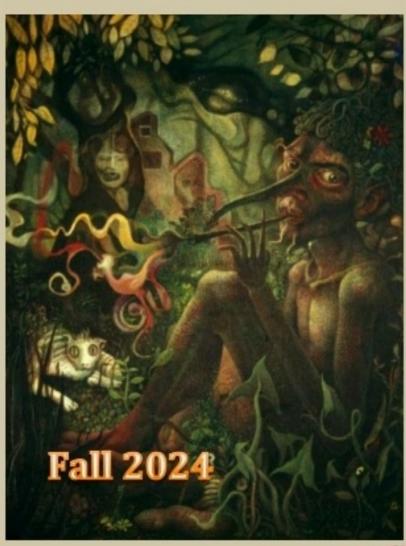




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Bienvenido Bones Banez, Jr., Dr. Robert J. Wickenheiser, & Master Terrance Lindall

